

# The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

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## FORGING AHEAD OF CALIFORNIA

Natural Conditions that Are Favorable to Florida

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS

The Citrus Fruit Growing, Trucking and General Farming Industries, Ages of the Two States and Prices of Land Discussed.

As to soil conditions, they differ vastly in these states. It is generally conceded by those who have studied the merits and demerits of the soil that of Florida is better adapted to citrus fruit raising. The Florida and California soils are both fertile for truck farming, but in California the business is carried on at a great expense on account of its dependence on the irrigation system, while in Florida irrigation is not necessary, except in case of a long drought.

Unless I am greatly mistaken, cotton, corn and other general crops are not grown in California, and the culture of California's fancy or staple products may be attempted here. In fact, Florida can produce almost everything and its diversity of products is attributed to the productivity of soil and the number of growing days which ranges from 300 to 305. In deciduous fruits, hay grain and nuts, California leads, but as we have just stated, hers may be ours for the effort.

Florida is 402 years old in white settlement and is the youngest of all the states in point of development, and has only one-tenth of its 35,000,000 acres of land under cultivation. While land sells cheap, values steadily advance from year to year. Citrus fruit land in Florida, well located, sells for from \$50 to \$150 per acre, whereas the same character of soil in California, similarly located and with or without water rights, sells for from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per acre.

Hereto are appended a few of the testimonies of those who actually saw, sampled and investigated the character of land in California and Florida:

"My experience in Southern California and here satisfies me that this is a far better citrus country than California. The soil is better adapted to citrus fruit growing. It costs less to clear and prepare the land for planting, fruit can be successfully grown without irrigation, the fruit is of better quality and we are closer to market."—John F. Greene, of Tarpon Springs, Fla., formerly a lawyer living in Los Angeles, Cal., and owner of one of the most productive groves of the Monrovia district.

"I have never seen nor would I have believed citrus fruit would grow as it does here. You people are not raising fruit, it is simply growing because you permit it to do so and nature favors its growing here more than any other place I have ever seen."—George W. Kern, also of Tarpon Springs, who formerly was one of the largest growers of the Redland section of California.

"California soil will not produce as much citrus fruit per acre as Florida soil, nor as good."—Hon. Peter O. Knight, of Tampa, who went to California in 1912 and investigated conditions.

"We hear much of the Red River Valley, the Riverside district, the Redlands and Pomona. They are truly great. But in the production of citrus fruit I know from first hand information that Florida has all these outclassed. Several men have frankly stated to me that it is only a question of time until Florida would have no competitor in California."—J. F. Schumann of Orlando, back from a trip to Los Angeles.

"Their soil conditions are much different from ours. We have an open, porous, sandy soil, into which the heat penetrates rapidly and it is easily warmed up so that our trees never become as thoroughly dormant as theirs do. Their soil, on the contrary, is heavy, with quite an admixture of clay, and it takes a long time

for the heat to penetrate. In our loose, sandy soil we grow a magnificent root system and the trees can be transplanted with naked roots. In California their soil is richer and heavier, so that the young plant does not require such a large amount of feeding roots and the result is that if they try to take up a tree and plant it with naked roots they lose a large proportion of them and the only way in which they can successfully make a tree live is to dig around it and put a sack under the roots, bringing it up around the trunk of the tree and tying it there so as to hold the earth around the roots. I think any Florida grower who will visit California and investigate conditions there carefully will come home feeling very much as I did—perfectly satisfied that his grove is in Florida rather than in California."—M. E. Gillett, of Tampa, who recently returned from a business trip to California.

"In California the man who has accumulated money enough to invest in any amount of land can well afford to place it in something that will give quicker and better results than fruit growing. In Florida you can get good land for about half what you would have to pay in California and the water question, since I have been here, does not seem to be so much as to how to get it, as how to dispose of it."—Geo. B. Duncan of Manicopa, Cal., who will return to Florida and make his home permanently.

"I was never so thoroughly convinced that this section is a long way ahead of California in so many respects as I am today. Being in the realty business I was more than particular in my investigations than I would have been had I been on a mere pleasure trip. I was principally struck with the citrus industry of that section of which we hear so much. I wish to say here that Florida can well lead California, first in the cost of production, and second in its groves and thirdly in its marketing."—F. E. Baxter, of Orlando, Fla.

"No state shows a greater variety of products, and no soil yields them more plentifully. Our variety is greater than that of California and where the two states compete, Florida's products are superior."—Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.

In my next letter I will tell the Tribune readers of the comparison of California and Florida oranges and why the latter are the best."—F. E. P. in St. Cloud Tribune.

### REPRESENT PUNTA GORDA

Citizens Attend Highway Association Meeting in Orlando

A large delegation of Punta Gorda citizens are attending the Central Florida Highway Association meeting in Orlando. Among others are:

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Banister, Capt. and Mrs. A. F. Dewey, George Dewey and Misses Grace Laubach and Helen Farrington, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Sturdy, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Tucker, Col. and Mrs. C. A. Waltire, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Blount and daughter, Miss Elise Blount, Dr. V. J. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. McLane, Jas. K. McClelland, H. C. Goldstein, Wm. Mizell and Adam Sisco.

A large part of the delegation left here early yesterday morning in automobiles, others going by rail.

It is anticipated that there will be some interesting developments in the re-routing of the Dixie Highway, and Punta Gorda is so represented as to insure that the interests of this section will be well taken care of.

### Delegates to Annual Conference

The Bartow district conference, which closed its session here last Thursday, chose the following delegates to the annual conference, which will meet at Ocala in December: R. O. Meek, Fort Meade; S. E. Roberts, Zolfo; C. E. Earnest, Bartow; Cyrus Q. Stewart, Fort Myers. Excellent men.

## Official Count of First and Second Choice Votes Polled in this County in the Primary Election of June 6

Bryan received 291 first choice votes; he received second choice votes from Gilchrist 87; from Trammell 122; from Wall 32.

Gilchrist received first choice votes 1,016; second choice votes from Bryan 61; from Trammell 374; from Wall 158.

Trammell received first choice votes 458; second choice votes from Bryan 78; from Gilchrist 330; from Wall 114.

Wall received first choice votes 458; second choice votes from Bryan 60; from Gilchrist 262; from Trammell 193.

Catts received 1,286 first choice votes; second choice votes from Farris 29; from Hudson 13; from Knott 86; from Wood 161.

Farris received 209 first choice votes; second choice votes from Catts 104; from Hudson 10; from Knott 74; from Wood 58.

Hudson received 110 first choice votes; second choice votes from Catts 72; from Farris 11; from Knott 89; from Wood 44.

Knott received 587 first choice votes; second choice votes from Catts 281; from Farris 53; from Hudson 32; from Wood 160.

Wood received 725 first choice votes; second choice votes from Catts 331; from Farris 41; from Hudson 24; from Knott 160.

Amos received 759 first choice votes; second choice votes from Angle 135; from Gwynn 74; from Thagard 75.

Angle received 436 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Amos 168; from Gwynn 78; from Thagard 195.

Gwynn received first choice votes 436; received second choice votes from Amos 141; from Angle 128; from Thagard 70.

Thagard received 461 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Amos 144; from Angle 156; from Gwynn 83.

Bryan received 549 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Dunn 102; from Ford 41; from Wells 159.

Dunn received 750 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Bryan 73; from Ford 54; from Wells 152.

Ford received 345 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Bryan 89; from Dunn 107; from Wells 141.

Wells received 845 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Bryan 140; from Dunn 219; from Ford 97.

Bell received 1,183 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Brown 173; from Edwards 179.

Brown received 1,183 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Bell 209; from Edwards 262.

Edwards received 728 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Bell 393; from Brown 491.

The following required no second choice votes, only two candidates being on the ticket for each office:

For vice president: Elliott W. Major 342; Thomas R. Marshall, 1,716.

For representative in congress: Herbert J. Drane 1,676; S. M. Sparkman 1,117.

For member national democratic committee: Cromwell Gibbons 959; J. T. G. Crawford 1,281.

For secretary of state: H. Clay Crawford 1,170; Adrian P. Jordan 1,398.

State treasurer: J. S. Griner 1,010; J. C. Luning 1,419.

For superintendent of public

instruction: J. L. Kelly 1,391; W. N. Sheats 1,254.

For justice of the supreme court, group 2: Jefferson B. Browne, 1,678; Robert C. Cockrell 622.

The canvassing board have completed the count of the first and second choice votes received by the various state and county candidates, and the official count for DeSoto county is as follows:

Carlton received 770 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Dishong 574; from Freeman 332.

Dishong received 1,502 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Carlton 270; from Freeman 173.

Freeman received 753 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Carlton 273; from Dishong 277.

Dishong's plurality 573. Albritton received 1,235 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Clay 175; from Cravens 158.

Clay received 885 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Albritton 324; from Cravens 182.

Cravens received 568 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Albritton 238; from Clay 285. Albritton's plurality 326.

Burton received 877 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Jones 529; from Leitner 186.

Jones received 1,452 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Burton 308; from Leitner 132.

Leitner received 558 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Burton 208; from Jones 342. Jones' plurality 526.

Commissioner's district No. 4—Brown received 301 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Livingston 51; from Welles 122.

Welles received 411 first choice votes; received second choice votes from Brown 101; from Livingston 58. Welles' plurality, 118.

Commissioner's district No. 3—Norman C. Hewitt, 204; William M. Whitten 297.

Commissioner's district No. 1—V. W. Surrency 336; L. W. Whitehurst 506. Whitehurst's plurality 170.

Commissioner's district No. 2—J. W. Bullock received 93 first choice votes; received second choice votes from John Hagan 20; from C. L. Keene 48.

John Hagan received 102 first choice votes; received second choice votes from J. W. Bullock 15; from C. L. Keene 25.

C. L. Keene received 84 first choice votes; received second choice votes from J. W. Bullock 43; from John Hagan 39. Bullock's plurality 14.

For state senator: C. P. Parish 1,099; A. M. Wilson 1,573.

For member house representatives: Will C. Langford 1,771; S. F. J. Trabue 1,043.

For clerk circuit court: F. M. Cooper 1,130; A. L. Durrance 1,809.

For superintendent of public instruction: James O. Bickley 1,115; P. G. Shaver 1,848.

For county assessor of taxes: W. C. Hooker 1,039; H. G. Murphy 1,960.

For tax collector: Cyril Baldwin 1,637; C. P. Durrance 1,371.

For supervisor of registration: S. T. Langford 1,750; Elias Waldron 937.

lished? A good cannery is insurance against loss through bad markets. There can hardly be any surplus to leave to rot in the fields if there is a cannery to sell it to after prices for Florida fresh vegetables and fruits have fallen below the level of remuneration. The trucker can better afford to make an attractive pack such as will make more sure the sale of his shipments if he can sell all but the best looking of his fruits and vegetables to a cannery. Fresh vegetables must have immediate market.

There is talk of establishing a denatured alcohol distillery at Jacksonville to use up the refuse of Florida fields. Alcohol can be made from any vegetable matter which contains starch or sugar. There is a growing demand for denatured alcohol for mechanical uses and, to a small extent in medicines—for external uses. Eventually, there will be a market for everything that grows on Florida soil. Even weeds make a good compost to enrich the soil so that valuable crops may grow. After all of a crop that the markets and the canneries will purchase has been gathered there may be something left suitable for the making of denatured alcohol. In that day the raising of truck crops in Florida will cease to be what it has often been said to be—"a gamble with the markets." It will have no uncertainties except those connected with the weather.—The Florida Times-Union.

### Gilchrist Specially Invited

Governor Gilchrist has received the following telegram from Governor Spry of Utah, chairman of the executive committee of the Governors' Conference: "Salt Lake City, Utah, June 16, 1916.—Sincerely trust you will attend coming conference with your best girl.—Wm. Spry, Governor."

At last conference of governors, Gilchrist was invited to speak on some subject and did so. We would like to know how many ex-governors, or governors either, who have been specially invited to attend this conference.

We learn that Gilchrist will not accept this invitation, as he is now attending to his private business at Waycross, Georgia. He will be absent two or three months, visiting his relatives in South Carolina, before returning to Punta Gorda.

### ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

To Hold Meeting July 3rd for Electing Officers

There will be a meeting of the Associated Charities in the Board of Trade rooms, Monday, July 3rd, at 8 p. m., for the purpose of hearing reports from the present officers and electing officers for the ensuing year.

We have succeeded in caring for the needy ones in our town through the past year with the \$1.00 membership fee and \$5.00 per month appropriated by our town council, together with a few small donations.

All cases that have been brought to our attention have been carefully investigated and worthy cases cared for the same day the requests were made. All citizens are urged to be present at this meeting.—T. R. WOODSON, Pres.

### Marines Test Pulling Strength

Port Royal, S. C.—After fourteen weeks of military training in the open, a company of fifty-six recruits of the United States Marine Corps, learning the ropes at the recruit depot here, increased its pulling power from 202,198 pounds to 264,568 pounds—an increase of 62,370 pounds.

Tests were made with Dr. Kellogg's dynamometer, a machine which automatically registers the exact number of pounds pulled by each muscle group of the body.

Justice Hughes' latest political opinions were uttered eight years ago, and cold storage facilities for political opinions are peculiarly inadequate.

## MATTER RESTS WITH CARRANZA

Position of the United States is Pointedly Set Forth

### TROOPS REMAIN IN MEXICO

Attack Would be Followed by the Gravest Consequences — Mobilization of the National Guard is Proceeding Satisfactorily.

Washington, D. C.—With President Wilson's firm refusal to withdraw American troops from Mexico, a note arraigning Carranza's course in a situation which has brought the two countries to the verge of war, the administration continues its preparation to meet any emergency that may arise. War or peace rests with Carranza. The position of the United States is pointedly set forth in its review of the apparent inability of Carranza to prevent border raids and to keep the obligation he owes the world by the preservation of order in his dominions.

"If," says the note, "the defacto government is pleased to ignore this obligation and to believe that 'in case of a refusal to retire these troops there is no further recourse than to defend its territory by an appeal to arms,' the government of the United States would surely be lacking in sincerity and friendship if it did not frankly impress upon the defacto government that the execution of this threat will lead to the gravest consequence. While this government would deeply regret such a result it cannot recede from its settled determination to maintain its national rights and perform its duty in preventing further invasions of the territory of the United States and in removing the peril which Americans along the international boundary have borne so long with patience and forbearance."

The note was handed to Eliseo Arredondo, the Mexican ambassador-designate here, for transmission to Mexico City. Copies were furnished to all the foreign embassies and legations and a summary cabled to Special Agent Rodgers at the Mexican capital.

In addition to refusing to withdraw the troops and warning that execution of the threat to attack them would be followed by the gravest consequences, the note serves notice that as long as the Carranza forces retain their present attitude no arms, munitions nor machinery for the manufacture of ammunition will be permitted to reach Mexico from the United States.

In congress steps are being taken by chairmen to have the national guard ready for immediate use by making effective at once certain provisions of the militia bills. Some members feel that making the militia immediately available for foreign service would cause some untoward act. The regular troops are available for foreign service and if it should become necessary to send in guardsmen the resolutions then could be rushed through, they say.

Reports to the war department indicated that the mobilization was proceeding satisfactorily.

From Special Agent Rodgers at Mexico City the state department heard that efforts were being made to run a special train from the capital to Vera Cruz to take out Americans and other foreigners. There are upwards of 1,200 Americans in Mexico City and grave fears for their safety in the event of an outbreak of hostilities is felt. Mr. Rodgers' report of the anti-American demonstrations and other disorders did not tell of any actual attacks.

Thorn, in the Palm Beach Post, says that, if ants make nests in your garden, you can easily destroy them by "burying a bit of cyanide of potassium" near each of their nests. But you'd better be careful about that cyanide; it's the deadliest poison known.

Greece ought to try a little self-government for a change.

## Future of Florida Trucking

The Fort Meade Leader says the farmers of that section are finding the cannery there their next best friend to a good market. Green beans had brought satisfactory prices and the bean raisers would have had to pocket a loss had it not been for the cannery which paid fair prices for what remained of their crop and enabled them to make something of

their seasons outlay. It has taken care of their surplus cabbage crop and is doing so now with tomatoes. This cannery finds a ready market for its output of 1,000 cans a day.

Does it require much imagination to conceive that the farmers around Fort Meade are living better today than they would be if the cannery had not been estab-